



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**Juli Wilkerson, Director**

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Governor Gary Locke appointed Juli Wilkerson director of the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development in January 2004. In her capacity, Ms. Wilkerson is responsible for leading the state's agency responsible for enhancing and promoting sustainable community and economic vitality in Washington. The agency is comprised of six divisions: community services, local government, housing services, international trade, economic development, and energy policy.

Ms. Wilkerson most recently served as Director of the City of Tacoma's Economic Development Department (EDD), and was instrumental in the city's downtown revitalization and international recognition as "America's #1 Wired City." Under her leadership, Tacoma's EDD was awarded the 2003 International Economic Development Council's Promotional Award in the Overall Marketing Campaign category for its "A Tacoma-Style Ad." Her vision and success at the city garnered her recognition as one of The Business Examiner's 2003 "Women of Influence" in the South Sound region. She was also awarded a 2003 National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors Award for her television business show while in Tacoma and the 2003 "Singular Exemplary Achievement" award by The American Society for Public Administration.

Her other positions at the City of Tacoma included Director of Planning and Development Services from 1995-1998 and Assistant City Manager from 1991-1995. Prior to joining the city, Ms. Wilkerson held management positions at the Washington State Department of Revenue and the state Attorney General's Office. From 1974-1978, she taught junior high in the Omaha, Nebraska Public Schools.

Ms. Wilkerson earned a Juris Doctorate from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1983 and received both her bachelor and graduate degrees from the University of Nebraska. She is a member of the Washington State Bar Association.

She has been actively involved with many organizations, including the Franciscan Health System Strategic Planning Committee and the University of Washington Tacoma Business Advisory Board. Ms. Wilkerson's other volunteer leadership positions have included the YWCA, Tacoma Art Museum, and Bates College Foundation Board.

Ms. Wilkerson lives in Tacoma with her husband. She enjoys spending time with her two stepdaughters and her son-in-law, and is anticipating the birth of her first grandchild. She is an avid golfer and visits Palm Desert as frequently as her schedule allows.